

13. (Original) The system of claim 9 further comprising:

a workload identifier for identifying each of a plurality of workloads;

a performance demand associated with each of said plurality of workloads, thereby establishing a plurality of performance demands; and

an initial priority ranking associated with each of said plurality of workloads, thereby establishing a plurality of initial priority rankings.

9
14. (Original) The system of claim 13 further comprising:

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a ranking controller for adjusting at least one of said initial priority ranking in order to service a performance demand of at least one of said plurality of workloads.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 13 further comprising:

a service level guarantee associated with one of said performance demand for establishing a minimum level of service for said one of said performance demand.

16. (Original) A computer program product having a computer readable medium having program logic recorded thereon for optimizing an operation of a hierarchical RAID (redundant array of independent disks) storage device included in a data processing system, the computer program product comprising:

code for transferring data blocks between said RAID storage device and a host device of said data processing system;

code for migrating selected data blocks between different levels of said RAID storage device; and

code for determining, during run time of said data processing system, an order for executing said code for transferring and said code for migrating.